

a native, as it is common in southwestern Pennsylvania, eastern Ohio and northern West Virginia. That it has been cultivated in the region is true, for Mr. Medsger writes to me: "My father informs me that when he was a boy nearly sixty years ago, this strawberry was about the only form cultivated in the gardens. At that time perhaps most of the strawberries now cultivated were unknown." This, however, does not solve the mystery of its origin, and any information in this line will be highly appreciated. The true *Fragaria vesca* L. is not found wild in this country and is very rare even as an escaped plant, probably because it is seldom cultivated. Its American representative, *F. Americana*, has nothing to do with the white-fruited strawberry. The fruit of the former has a long neck devoid of achenes, which is not the case with the latter. Mr. Medsger has sent me fine fruits of the Pennsylvania plant and these are essentially those of *F. vesca*. The achenes in the mature fruit are wholly superficial, the receptacle not even bearing a trace of being pitted, and the sepals are spreading. The fruits are most of them almost spherical, some only slightly elongated.

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SHORTER NOTES

A MUCH-NAMED FUNGUS.—I am obliged to Mr. Shear* for calling my attention to the error made by Professor Tracy and myself in overlooking Cooke and Ellis' *Fusicladium fasciculatum* when we proposed the name *Scolecotrichum euphorbiae* for a commonly occurring fungus on different species of *Euphorbia*. As Mr. Shear points out there can be no question of the identity of the two and the specific name given by us must drop into synonymy. Unfortunately, however, other errors must be acknowledged. In *Muhlenbergia*, 1: 16. Au. 1901, I proposed the new genus *Cercosporidium* founded on this species as the type. A further examination of this material and of the numerous European specimens of *Passalora bacilligera* (Mont. & Fr.)

* Bull. Torrey Club, 29: 449. Jl. 1902.

Fresenius, the type of the genus *Passalora* Fr., in the herbarium of the New York Botanical Garden, convinces me that the two are not generically distinct. Both are biophilous, and have long, pannose, fasciculate, fuscous conidiophores, which bear the once or more septate oval or ovate conidia both acrogenously and pleurogenously. Adopting this view of the case, the name and synonymy of our fungus will stand as follows :

Passalora fasciculata (C. & E.).

Syn. : *Fusicladium fasciculatum* C. & E. Grevillea, 6 : 88. Mr. 1878.

Scolecotrichum euphorbiae Tracy and Earle, Bull. Torrey Club, 23 : 209. My. 1896.

Piricularia euphorbiae Atkinson, Bull. Cornell Univ. 3 : 40.

Cercosporidium euphorbiae Earle, Muhlenbergia, 1 : 16. Au. 1901.

Scolecotrichum fasciculatum Shear, Bull. Torrey Club, 29 : 449. Jl. 1902.

CERCOSPORIDIUM HELLERI Earle, Muhlenbergia, 1 : 16 should also be changed to **Passalora Helleri** (Earle).

F. S. EARLE.

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NEWS ITEMS

Dr. N. L. Britton returned on September 13 from a visit to England.

Mr. J. A. Shafer, curator of the herbarium of the Carnegie Museum, Pittsburg, Pa., spent the month of September at the New York Botanical Garden; and H. Harold Hume, of the Florida State Agricultural College, has recently devoted a week to consulting its library.

"Forage Conditions on the northern Border of the Great Basin" by Dr. David Griffiths, "Stock Ranges of northwestern California" by Mr. Joseph Burt Davy, and "The North American Species of *Spartina*" by Mr. Elmer D. Merrill, are titles of bulletins recently issued by the Bureau of Plant Industry.